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Council Report May 4, 2012

Thanks to the many volunteers who help "take care of our community":

The Chauncey Cooperative men for their clean-up work in Tommy Johnston Park,

The approximately 100 volunteers who helped with the Detrash the Wabash event on April 21,

The Alpha Tau Omega fraternity for weeding and litter removal at the Police Station on Earth Day (April 22),

The Starbuck's store managers from Boone, Hamilton, Marion, and Tippecanoe Counties for helping plant 40 shrubs in Celery Bog Nature Area on April 26, and

The Burgett's Learning Center youngsters for helping plant 12 trees near the entrance to Celery Bog Nature Area during the Arbor Day event on April 27.

Congratulations to all the young dancers, their instructors, and families and friends on a very successful Morton Spring Dance Recital on April 28.

The Sagamore West Farmers Market opened in Cumberland Park on May 2 – 50 vendor spaces have been rented to date. It will be open every Wednesday, 3-6:30 pm, through October.

"MindBOGgling" (a celebration of Celery Bog Nature Area) will be May 19, 9 am to 5 pm, with a 7-9:30 pm evening program. There will be indoor and outdoor activities for all ages, education booths, an art exhibit, and birding (bring binoculars), plant, wetland, and wildflower guided walks. There is limited seating for the evening program (plan to arrive on time); live music and art, a presentation of the history of Celery Bog, and readings are scheduled for the evening. The event is sponsored by Friends of Celery Bog in cooperation with the West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation Departments, Sycamore Audubon Society, Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners, the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society, and many volunteers.

The Celery Bog webcam is now operational and available to the public in Lilly Nature Center. It may be viewed remotely by computer by entering bogcam1.westlafayette.in.gov as the address in the browser (enter public for both the user name and for the password).

Upcoming Lilly Nature Center programs open-to-the-public include: May 10, 7:15 pm, Bats & Woodrats: Conservation Concerns for Two Endangered Indiana Mammals; May 14, 7 pm, Celery Bog Plant Safari; May 16, 7-9 pm, The Wonders of Wetlands; and May 30, 1-4 pm, Drawing & Painting the Turtles of Indiana.

The Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society's RIP (remove invasive plants) Squad has work sessions scheduled for: May 9 & 16 in Celery Bog Nature Area (meet by the Nature Center) and May 23 in Happy Hollow Park (meet by shelter #4, at the back of the park). Work sessions are 3-5 pm. Volunteers are needed - bring gloves and dress for poison ivy (trash bags are provided).

Twenty-eight co-ed and nine men's teams begin play in the Recreational Softball Leagues this week.

The pool will open May 25 at 1:00 pm with the annual Splash Bash, weather permitting.

The next Park Board meeting will be May 21 at 4:30 pm in Lilly Nature Center.